

APPALACIAN MOUNTAIN CLUB



CONNECTICUT CHAPTER

ANNUAL REPORT

DECEMBER 1, 1990

CHAPTER CHAIR'S REPORT

Over a year ago we began work on a fundraising effort to match a challenge grant from the Stanley Works. Stanley had contributed \$4,000 to the Connecticut Chapter and was willing to give an additional \$2,000, provided our chapter raised at least \$4,000 from other corporate donors. Many chapter volunteers actively sought funds from the corporate community. As the deadline for meeting this goal approached, we were far from the \$4,000 level when one of our members proved the old baseball adage right, "It ain't over till it's over." I salute Ken Richardson who spearheaded the volunteers' efforts to not only reach the goal but to go beyond it. The Chapter will spend the money primarily for items relating to the Silver Hill shelter near the Appalachian Trail.

We witnessed considerable change in the structure of the Club this past year. The new AMC bylaws were resoundingly passed thanks in part to a dedicated effort by volunteers in our Chapter. You may have noticed that Connecticut Chapter members have become increasingly involved on the national level of the AMC and that they have contributed greatly to the club's professional management.

As of this writing (in mid-October), we have received more than 210 calls in 1990 to the AMC phone from people requesting information about the AMC. In 1989 we had over 290 calls to the AMC phone. There is great interest among the public in the preservation and enjoyment of the outdoors, and I believe there is heightened awareness of the Connecticut Chapter of the AMC. We succeeded in attracting several articles regarding our efforts this past year, and our membership has grown, perhaps, as a result of the public relations.

I want to acknowledge the dedication the members of the Executive Committee who gave so much of their time attending the meetings we held as well as representing our chapter at special events such as Earth Day, the Boy Scouts 80th anniversary, the Peace Climb presentation and the New Haven Waterfest. Without the commitment of the Executive Committee and the commitment of their committee members, we would never have enjoyed the wonderful programs we did this past year.

Please welcome the new Chapter Chair and the new Executive Committee. The Executive Committee has its work cut out for it in developing programs and recruiting additional volunteers. Ask yourself if you can help out. As someone once said, "You can get what you want by helping others get what they want."

Thanks to David Cullen for the idea for Family Day. I look forward to more successful family days with the AMC...as well as a few more "family days" at home with my loved ones who have been behind me all the way these past two years!

Glen Parchmann
Connecticut Chapter Chair

CONNECTICUT CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING - 1989

The 69th Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter of the Appalachian Mountain Club was held at the Days Inn in Meriden, CT on Saturday, December 2, 1989. 344 people attended afternoon and/or evening sessions. Chapter Chair Glen Parchmann called the business meeting to order at 7:18 p.m.

Glen introduced Norm Sills who provided information on the ATC Biannual Conference which will be co-hosted by our chapter on July 19-21, 1991. The conference, coordinated by Dereka Smith, is titled Williams 91 and will be held at Williams College in Mass. Ken Richardson reported on the progress of our fund raising efforts for the Stanley Works Matching Fund Challenge.

Glen thanked the Program Committee for its efforts in planning the Annual Meeting. Special thanks went to Program Committee Chair Fay Dresner, Registrar Dick Barts and Mary Dorpalen, Secretary.

A moment of silence was observed for the members of the Connecticut Chapter who had passed away during the past year.

Two Connecticut Chapter members were awarded patches for completing the Blue Trails System. Donna Arbas and Kenneth Roth were welcomed into the CT 400 Club.

Glen then recognized the following special guests: Wayne Foote, Sue Hardy, Norm Putnam, Peter Vandewater, Linda Rothe, Fred Sawyer, and Bob Bentley.

Andy Falender, Executive Director of the Appalachian Mountain Club, was introduced by Glen. Andy recognized one other special guest, Betty Bourrat, V.P. of Programs. He spoke briefly about his desire in the coming year to get to know the members of the club better. He then discussed the state of the club, focusing on its growth in membership. He recognized our chapter for achieving the greatest growth in membership of all the chapters. A special thanks was extended to Janet DiMattia, Membership Chair, for this accomplishment.

Excursions Co-Chair Gerry Stanton and Merri Swanson came forward to recognize all hike leaders, especially those who led 5 or more hikes during the past year. The following 31 leaders were awarded special patches:

Second Time Award Winners

Dick Blake
Steve Braclak
Paula Burton
Harry Caldwell
Dale Hackett
Keith Johnson
Chuck MacMath
Toni Walmborg
Don Morgan
Ron Naylor
Jeff O'Donnell
Helen Shoneck

First Year Award Winners

Elizabeth Buckley
Peter Dorpalen
Mary Dorpalen
Gil Eifler
Tom Galantine
Sue Hardy
Marjorie Herzenberg
Arvid Herzenberg
Norm Hinkeldey
Anne Milbrooke
Carolyn Olsen
Glen Parchmann
Rich Rammig

First Year Award Winners Continued

Betty Robinson
Carl Rosenthal
Dick Ruddock
Bill Schumacher
Merri Swanson
Joan Tait

Nine fifty-year members were recognized, although none were able to attend: Badger Perrin, Eben Graves, W. Frederick Rosseau, Erwin Grimmisen, Cornelius Agnew, John Gardner, Richard Dexter, Searls Dearington, and Alice Fellows.

Past chairs in attendance were asked to stand: Anne Bailey, Ledge Clayton, Gerry Hardy, Sue Hardy, John Herr, Gordon Moulton, Trish Niece, and Bill Schmidt.

Glen next extended his appreciation to the following outgoing members of the Executive Committee: Harry Duren, Treasurer; Gerry Stanton, Excursions Co-Chair; Susan Joy, FCC Chair; and Fay Dresner, Program Chair.

The Secretary's report was accepted as printed in the 1989 Annual Report. The treasurer's report was also accepted as presented.

The nominating committee was thanked for its diligence in putting together the 1990 slate: Steve Braclak, Peter Dorpalen, Betty Goyette, Jeanne Thomson, and Dave Mihalek, Chair.

Dave Mihalek presented the slate of nominees for 1990 as follows:

Glen Parchmann	Chairman
Mary Dorpalen	Secretary
Paul Maresca	Treasurer
Conservation	Don Patterson
Education	Francine Zawistowski
Excursions	Merri Swanson
	Trevor Ledger-Thomas
Fairfield County	Bill Russell
Membership	Janet DiMattia
Mountaineering	Ed Budzik
Mt. Riga	Paul Ives
Program	Gordon Gaulin
Trails	Dough Christie
Whitewater	Ed Bossom
	Dick Ploski
Member-at-Large	Jeff O'Donnell
Past Chair	Trish Niece

The secretary cast one ballot for the above named slate.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Mary Dorpalen
Chapter Secretary

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TWELVE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1989

Cash at January 1, 1989:	
Cash Held by Treasurer:	
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$10,000.00
Harbor National Bank - Checking	1,450.96
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	739.24
Total Held by Treasurer	----- \$12,190.20
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,776.19
Mt. Riga	2,555.90
Total Held by Committees	----- 4,332.09
Total Cash	----- \$16,522.29
Revenue Collected:	
AMC Dues Collected	\$15,361.50
Program Activity Collections	9,279.60
Grants Received	5,095.00
Chapter Merchandise Sales and Advertising	2,203.00
Contributions Received	25.00
Interest Income	1,075.61
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	697.91
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	80.06
Total Revenue	----- 33,817.68
Total Available Funds	----- \$50,339.97
Expenditures Made:	
Cost of Program Activities	\$ 8,697.75
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	1,351.44
Cost of Merchandise Purchased	652.70
Contributions Made (Note 1)	1,690.00
Location deposits	230.00
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:	
Administration	3,531.59
Conservation	289.54
Education	- 0 -
Excursions	1,345.17
Fairfield County	947.05
Membership	1,217.65
Mountaineering	78.40
Newsletter	1,706.52
Program	387.99
Trails	5,939.80
Total Expenditures	----- 28,065.60
Cash at December 31, 1989	----- \$22,274.37 -----

Cash at December 31, 1989:

Cash Held by Treasurer:	
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$ 00.00
Harbor National Bank - Checking	10,597.55
The Village Bank - Checking	5,781.81
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	784.95
Total Held by Treasurer	----- \$17,164.31
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,856.25
Mt. Riga	3,253.81
Total Held by Committees	----- 5,110.06
Total Cash	----- \$22,274.37 -----

Note 1 - The following 1989 contributions were made in 1989:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Amount</u>
The Nature Conservancy (Sage's Ravine)	\$ 500
The Nature Conservancy (General Use)	100
Housatonic Valley Association	250
Appalachian Trail Conference	200
CT Forests and Parks Association	175
Green Mountain Club	175
Four organizations each for \$25	100
Nature Conversation	190
	----- \$1,690 -----

Paul Maresca, Treasurer

TREASURER'S REPORT
FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED OCTOBER 31, 1990

Cash at January 1, 1990:	
Cash Held by Treasurer:	
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$ - 0 -
Harbor National Bank - Checking	10,597.55
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	5,781.81
The Village Bank - Checking	- 0 -
The Village Bank - Certificate	- 0 -
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	784.95

Total Held by Treasurer	\$17,164.31
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,856.25
Mt. Riga	3,253.81

Total Held by Committees	5,110.06

Total Cash	\$22,274.37
Revenue Collected:	
AMC Dues Collected	\$11,184.00
Program Activity Collections	12,035.00
Grants Received (Note 1)	4,441.37
Chapter Merchandise Sales and Advertising	219.00
Contributions Received	771.00
Interest Income	775.14
Net Increase in Mt. Riga Cash Balance	- 1,172.93
Net Increase in Whitewater Cash Balance	123.74

Total Revenue	28,376.32

Total Available Funds	\$50,650.59
Expenditures Made:	
Cost of Program Activities	\$10,852.99
Cost of Used Equipment and Books	75.25
Cost of Merchandise Purchased	187.54
Contributions Made (Note 2)	- 0 -
Committee/Administration Operating Expenses:	
Administration	2,292.70
Conservation	380.55
Education	- 0 -
Excursions	903.41
Fairfield County	488.68
Membership	1,230.79
Mountaineering	52.60
Newsletter	1,327.87
Program	34.56
Trails	3,027.97

Total Expenditures	20,854.91

Cash at October 31, 1990	\$29,795.78

Cash at October 31, 1990:

Cash Held by Treasurer:	
Harbor National Bank - Certificate	\$ - 0 -
Harbor National Bank - Checking	- 0 -
The Village Bank - Certificate	10,412.92
The Village Bank - Checking	14,501.01
Society for Savings - Memorial Account	820.98

Total Held by Treasurer	\$25,734.91
Cash Held by Committees:	
Whitewater	\$ 1,979.99
Mt. Riga	2,080.88

Total Held by Committees	4,060.87

Total Cash	\$29,795.78

Note 1 - Actual Grants received is 9,665.00 of which 5,223.63 has been expanded to date.

Note 2 - The following 1990 contributions were approved at the September Committee meeting and will be disbursed in November:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Amount</u>
The Nature Conservancy (Sage's Ravine)	\$ 500
The Nature Conservancy (General Use)	100
Housatonic Valley Association	350
Appalachian Trail Conference	200
CT Forests and Parks Association	175
Green Mountain Club	500
Three organizations each for \$25	75

	\$1,900

Paul Maresca, Treasurer

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

This year the Conservation Committee maintained booths at the HVA Earth Day Celebration in Danbury, the Boy Scout Jamboree in Hebron, and Waterfest in North Branford. All three events were well-attended.

Our Conservation Day theme was the "Year of the Forest." Several hikes were offered in various state forests in Connecticut followed by a potluck supper and program featuring Tim Hawley, Chief Forester of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority.

At our Annual Meeting Workshop, we invited Sarah Schmidt, Assistant Conservation Director of the AMC, to speak about the numerous projects and issues that the AMC is actively involved in for conservation. We also invited Fred Riotte to give a presentation on Rails-To-Trails.

Listed below are the names of members who were active or involved in some way with the Conservation Committee this past year. I would also like to thank Bill Russell who raised \$100 on Earth Day for the Conservation Committee and led a hike for Conservation Day. In closing out my term as Chairman of the Conservation Committee, I would strongly encourage more AMC members to get involved in our activities. The more members that are involved, the stronger our commitment will be towards protecting Connecticut's environment.

Judy Snyder	Fred Riotte	Nancy Hatfield	Mary Adams
Sue Kirk	Joan Tait	Bob Dickinson	

Don Patterson, Chair

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

We finished the year of 1989 by teaching CPR at the Annual Meeting with 34 people participating in the course and receiving their Red Cross Certification. This is a well-attended class each year. Thank you to our instructors Jeff O'Donnell, Craig Woods and Fran Aloisa for their donation of time in teaching this course each year.

The first Education Committee meeting of the year was held in February with plans and an outline made of the committee's focus for the future. The Education Committee planned to serve as a resource to the Club and other committees in promoting membership, planning workshops, seminars and leadership programs and getting projects off the ground.

In April the Education Committee organized a "Committee Recruitment Seminar" attended by the chairs of all the Connecticut Chapter Committees. The focus was on increasing committee membership and participation. In order for all committee members and Club members to be aware of each committee's responsibility, the decision was made to have each committee submit a "Task List" to the Education Committee to be compiled in a booklet form. This booklet will be distributed to each committee chair and any Club member requesting a copy. Anyone that wants a copy of the "Task List Booklet" should contact: Fran Aloisa, 22 Redwing Road., Enfield, CT 06082.

The Education Committee will again teach the CPR course at the Annual Meeting and will also have a guest speaker teaching a one-hour seminar on "Orthopaedic Injuries On The Trail". The Education Committee is compiling a "Traveling Board" to be on display at AMC functions. The Board will provide information to Club members on each committee's function and how AMC members can become more involved.

We welcome new members to the Education Committee. Guest speakers and other people with educational information to share with the Connecticut Chapter are encouraged to contact the committee chair.

Fran Aloisa, Chair

EXCURSIONS COMMITTEE

The Excursions Committee coordinates a varied program of day hikes, backpacking, cross-country skiing, bicycling and weekend excursions. The individual activity coordinators have all worked hard to provide a creative mix of events, even at times when interest was limited or circumstances deterred high participation levels. We owe them all a great deal of thanks for their perseverance.

Mary Dorpalen was again the Bulletin Editor this year. She spends a great deal of time not only typing the activities to submit to Boston, but also scanning them for conformity to Club policy as well as to ensure a good mix of events each day. Jeff O'Donnell continues to maintain Club event statistics on the computer and to generate reports and mailing labels. Kathy Lindbeck is still mailing out the trip report forms to hike leaders. These tasks take a great deal of time and we should all be very grateful to these individuals for expending so much of their time for the benefit of all of us.

The committee continues to offer hikes and programs to develop new leaders. A day-long workshop led by Anne Bailey and Jeff O'Donnell focusing on leadership styles and techniques is held annually. This year it was extended to include the Berkshire Chapter.

Trip Statistics October 1, 1989 - September 30, 1990

Figures in () indicate weekend trips included. N/A - not available.

	1990	1989	1988	1987
All Activities				
Trips	384	390	405	461
Participants	4289	4570	4496	NA
Average turnout	11.2	11.5	11.1	NA
Day Hikes				
Trips	358	352	314	348
Participants	4006	4123	3737	3644
Average turnout	11.2	11.7	11.9	10.5

Special Activities

The Special Activities are each headed by a coordinator who maintains a leader's list for that activity and solicits leaders to organize events. This involves a great deal of time. A big thanks to them for their efforts. Their reports and statistics follow:

Weekend Trips Coordinator: Jeri Lyons

	1990	1989	1988	1987
Weekends	10	10	11	14
Trips	191	190	242	280
Average turnout	19.1	18.0	22.0	20.0

Backpacking Coordinators: Marty Ritter, Jake Kos

	1990	1989	1988	1987
Backpacking	1	NA	11	17
Trips	6	NA	57	NA
Average turnout	6	NA	5.2	NA

Bicycling Coordinator: Ray MacMath

	1990	1989	1988	1987
Bike Rides	NA	16	34(3)	21
Trips	NA	72	238	NA
Average Turnout	NA	4.5	9.0	NA

Flatwater Canoeing: Chuck MacMath

	1990	1989	1988	1987
Canoe Trips	8	12(2)	14(3)	18(4)
Trips	45	132	196	234
Average Turnout	5.6	11.0	14.0	13.0

Cross-Country Skiing: Bob Dickinson

	1990	1989	1988	1987
Cross-Country Skiing	7	NA	26(10)	43
Trips	41	NA	250	NA
Average turnout	5.8	NA	9.6	NA

Blue Trail Series: Steve Braciak

The Blue Trail series continues with Steve Braciak as coordinator. During the past year, 14 hikes were offered covering a total of 105 miles. Thirteen different trails were either partially or totally completed. These include Bigelow Hollow, Chatfield, Cockaponset, Jericho, Macedonia, Mattatuck, McLean Game Refuge, Ragged Mountain Loop, Sleeping Giant, Sunny Valley Foundation, Tunxis, Westwoods and Zoar trails.

CT 400 Club: Daryl Borst

Since 1973, records have been kept of people who have hiked all 400 miles of the Connecticut Blue Trails. This year no one completed the trail series, although many hikers have logged a great many miles in that direction.

Monthly Hike Coordinators: January-December, 1990

Each month day hikes are coordinated by a different person known as a "monthly". They solicit hikes by letter, follow up with phone calls, balance out A, B and C hikes, and type them up for the Bulletin Editor. Leona Klerer coordinates the FCC hikes each month. We thank all of them for their time and efforts.

Carl Rosenthal	Don Caldwell	Gerry Stanton
Joan Tait	Susan Peterson	Donna Arbas
Norma Paggioli	Don Morgan	Carol Sinnamon
Norman Hingkeldey		

Excursions Committee

Jeri Lyons	Leona Klerer	Jeff O'Donnell
Jake Kos	Marty Ritter	Bob Dickinson
Daryl Borst	Chuck MacMath	Ray MacMath
Kathy Lindbeck	Steve Braciak	Mary Dorpalen

Merri Swanson, Co-Chair
Trevor Ledger-Thomas, Co-Chair

FAIRFIELD COUNTY COMMITTEE

The Fairfield County Committee has regained some of the original momentum and enthusiasm and seems to be rapidly growing during 1990.

A new format for the bi-monthly HIKER was established and regular mailings continue to all on the FCC mailing list which is currently 575 names.

Potluck meetings are held every other month, on the second Wednesday, at the Eastern Congregational Church in Easton, Connecticut. Attendance has been steadily increasing at these popular events which feature speakers and slide shows covering outdoor subjects of interest to the members. Attendance at these dinners is generally about 60 persons. They are self-liquidating.

A major public show was produced featuring Ian Wade, one of the members of the Peace Climb of Mount Everest in May 1990. Attendance was about 2500 persons. Interesting slides and narration by Ian of the spectacular climb was well received. The show was held at Tomlinson school in Fairfield on October 19th. The show was profitable and made money for the club. It is planned to repeat this larger public effort each fall in the future with a well-known speaker.

A revived committee has been recruited and are enthusiastically helping to build the FCC.

The FCC seems to be well on its way, increasing in size, with an enthusiastic and supportive membership.

Member At Large	Dave Cronin
Editor - THE HIKER	Randy Kessler
Secretary	Toby Moore
MIS/Membership	Peter Brownstein
Potluck Dinner Coordinator	Rosebud Jacques
Chapter Chair	Glen Parchmann
Excursions-Hikes Coordinator	Leona Klerer
Public Relations Coordinator	Bill McDonald
Publications Coordinator	Diana Donnelly
Member At Large	Mary-Jane Cross
Treasurer	Liz Schoengood
Programs Coordinator	Chuck MacMath
Potluck Parties Coordinator	Dorothy Hlavacek
Member At Large	Janet Wade
Member At Large	Priscilla Briggs
Chair	Bill Russell

MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

Last winter we spent New Year's weekend at Cardigan and a weekend at Stowe and Wonalancet. Climbing began early in March, thanks to the mild weather, and we had a good turn out for beginner sessions in April and May.

In June, Dennis Burke, Paul Maresca and Rick Orsini climbed at Yosemite. In August, Dennis, Al Carilli and Matt Rugens did an over-night climb on Cannon Mt. in New Hampshire. Dennis also went to Europe to climb the Matterhorn and Mt. Blanc, and Paul and Maria Scarpa climbed eight 14,000 footers in the Cascades.

Paul Maresca, Chris Kimball and Frank Dally are working with the Ridgefield Parks and Rec. Dept. to possibly build a climbing wall in the former High School. It would be great for winter and wet weather climbing.

Committee Members:

Bruce Cobleigh	Chris Kimball	Paul Maresca
Don Reichler	Maria Scarpa	Paul Scarpa
		Ed Budzik, Chair

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

The CT Chapter grew by over 800 memberships this past year, bringing the total Chapter membership to 4260. Several membership-sponsored activities were led by Betty Robinson, Jeri Lyons, Norm Hingkeldey, and Trish Niece. It was our goal to build up our membership and participation in the Eastern part of the state.

A new-member hiking week-end was held at Camp Hi-Rock in Southwestern MA in May. Many of the participants were new members and had quite a workout hiking on the Appalachian Trail.

Joining the committee as membership contacts were David Cullen - Norwich, Heidi Parchmann - Rocky Hill, and Martine Flory - Groton. This year the name of a membership contact was included in the new member packet. We encourage all new members to call their contact and to let us help them become involved in Chapter activities.

The annual New Members' Day was held September 22nd. Many activities went on as scheduled in spite of very wet weather. Many thanks to the activity leaders who helped to make the day a success. Wearing "green tags", forty-nine new members joined in the evening's festivities in Goshen. A special thanks to Anne Bailey for her super slide show.

Many thanks, also, to the following AMC members active on the Membership Committee during the past year.

Anne Bailey	Peter Brownstein (FCC)	Paula Burton
Ledge Clayton	David Cullen	Martine Flory
Gerry Hardy	Paul Hermenau	Norm Hingkeldey
Denise M. King	Jeri Lyons	Trish Niece
Heidi Parchmann	Betty Robinson	Carol Sinnamon
Lorraine Schweitzer		

Janet DiMattia, Chair

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Our committee has continued to serve the chapter by putting on four potluck suppers, the Spring Dinner, and the Annual Meeting. We provided the program for the mid-winter Potluck, when Joan Tait showed slides of Iceland, "The Land of Fire and Ice," at the Spring Dinner, when Bill Russell showed slides on "Sailing along the Turkish Coast: An AMC Excursion," and at the Annual Meeting when Sonny Martineau and Roger Zimmerman recreated their "Take a hike: Hut to Hut in the Zillertal Alps of Austria."

The Annual Meeting on December 2, 1989 at the Days Inn in Meriden (formerly the Yale Inn), consisted of a CPR course in the morning, many workshops led by chapter committees in the afternoon, and an evening banquet and program. A total of 277 people joined us for dinner, and 67 others came only in the

afternoon. We netted about \$400 on the book and used equipment sales. We were fortunate to have been able to use the Third Congregational Church in Middletown and the Church of Christ Congregational in Goshen for our four potlucks. The Spring Dinner was held at the Cheshire Grange in Cheshire. We are always on the look out for suitable facilities for our meetings.

We welcome additional members to our committee, even to help out at only one or two events. Our committee members worked faithfully and were responsible for the smooth operation of our activities. The committee met several times during the year to plan our programs. We also acknowledge the help of many others who pitched in from time to time in the best "Apple" tradition.

Active Committee Members:

Luella Bartes	Iona Malmborg
Richard Bartes	Irving Mills
Edgar Dresner	Billie Morrow
Fay Dresner	Wilford Parker
Helene Goulet	Heidi Parchmann
Emilie Hall	Carol Sinnamon
Roger Hall	Judy Snyder
Martin Jacobs	Merril Swanson
Dave Jenkins	

Gordon Gaulin, Chair

MT. RIGA COMMITTEE

This last year has been busy, once again, at the Northwest Camp. The cabin use increased to 92 registered nights with many people stopping in off the trail to rest and visit. The Northwest Camp also offered this year a new tent platform located several hundred feet south of cabin.

The Woodcutting Party on Nov. 12 saw an excellent turnout of manpower. The cabin was also renovated with new cabinets, countertop, table, woodstove, two more bunks, and a skylight in loft area.

The cabin was popular again during the winter for hiking, snowshoeing and X-C skiing. The X-C Ski and Hike on March 10, turned out to be a hike sponsored by the CT Caribou Clan and the Mt. Riga Committee. Our Sugaring-Off Party on March 17th, was fun, despite rain and no show.

The Spring work-party on May 19th was productive. Everyone worked hard to rebuild the picnic table, build and install the tent platform, and make other repairs. Many thanks to Dan Magri, Rod Parkee, Karl Holstein, all of the Mt. Riga Committee and all our friends of the N.W. Camp who helped out this past year with their dedicated work and support.

On June 9th, Family Day, there was a fun hike up to Brace Mt. to enjoy the spectacular views followed by a Barbecue at the N.W. Camp. Susan Ives' chili was enjoyed by all. On September 22, New Members Day, we had our Cabin Warming. Approx. 30 people stopped in to enjoy the cabin, dry out from the rain and have some hot soup. On November 4, we held our Annual Woodcutting Work Party to restock and prepare for the winter. In December a Christmas Caroling Hike to the N.W. Camp was held.

This past year has been exciting and challenging with new activities and work-parties. We invite all chapter members to use the cabin/tent platform. Remember the Northwest Camp is located in one of the nicest areas in Connecticut, a great starting point for leading full or half day hikes.

Please contact the Mt. Riga Committee for information or see the AMC Bulletin for details and upcoming events.

John Hicks	Dave Terrill
Col. A. H. Shookus	John Rak
Herb Van Winkle	Rod Parlee
Tom Nichols	Karl Holstein
Chuck MacMath	Dave Benton
Ted Hinmann	Keith Larson
Rodger Makepeace	Tom Lusciuskas
Dan Magri	Marlene Koocha
Chuck Doll	Rich Luzietti
Steve Thomson	Susan Ives
Steve Stein	

Paul Ives, Chair

TRAILS COMMITTEE

Over the past year, the Trails Committee and the many associated volunteers have successfully carried out the delegated responsibilities of maintaining and managing the National Appalachian Scenic Trail in CT. The result has been a busy, productive and challenging year.

Major credit goes to the various volunteers who accept regular assignments and day-by-day responsibilities as members of the Management Team. In 1990 this included 21 trail Maintainers, persons responsible for basic maintenance of specific sections of the A.T. and associated blue trails; 22 land monitors, persons who oversee specific units of the nearly 7000 acres of corridor land in CT; and 12 guides, persons who meet the public at trail heads and at specific trail locations during the busy weekends as the educational and public relations component. Add to this our Silver Hill Committee, the various volunteers in other leadership positions and the Trails Committee and you round out this vital management roster.

In addition, to the ongoing work of these volunteers, 86 work parties took place with an average attendance of 7.3 persons and a total 3551 volunteer hours of actual field work, up from 3187 hours last year. These activities covered major trail improvement projects, camping area and shelter construction and significant projects in land management. Also, training was offered with a workshop for guides that included two Roving Diversity Data Base, and a two day Trail Introduction us to the CT Natural Diversity Data Base, and a two day Trail Maintenance Workshop with a record of 47 different people attending. Here, many also took advantage of the social opportunities with the Saturday potluck and overnight camping at Silver Hill. The participants in these activities so vital to the trails program represent a wide range of different volunteers well beyond those on the Management Team. While total figures for all aspects of participation are not yet available, overall participation should match or exceed that of last year and total volunteer hours, once Management Team figures are in, should do likewise.

The Roving Caretaker Program, while not a volunteer program, needs mention here since it is an increasingly important part of our management effort. The Trails Committee oversees the program, but the hiring and operational supervision rests with the AMC Field Office staff in Dalton. This year, under the leadership of Tim Loveridge, Program Coordinator with Dennis Regan, and in close coordination with our volunteer Guides, both the personnel and the program were outstanding. Four paid Rovers covered the A.T. in CT. and Southern Mass. during the summer months providing vital day and night supervision and valuable outreach services, one served weekends in the spring and two are serving weekends this fall, and one served weekends in the period. Now in its twelfth year, the program has increasingly become more important as increased use by individuals and groups has increased pressures for trail education and supervision. This year's Rovers reported 25% more people contacts on the trail than last year and heavy use of shelters and camping areas. Sages, a Rover-based camping area where the overnight fee was dropped this year, showed a 74% increase in campers. A major challenge in the future will be to maintain the integrity of the Trail in a very real and broad sense. The Rovers Program is already proving to be an essential component in this goal.

Again this year, most of the goals established by the Trails Committee will be achieved; some will require additional follow-up next year. One major accomplishment, thanks to the tremendous effort and leadership of Ken Richardson and others who assisted, was the successful completion of the Stanley works Matching Fund challenge. This went well over the challenge amount, assuring funds to complete the Silver Hill project and cover additional major trail maintenance needs. Our thanks to all who participated. Other significant accomplishments, most related to our goals, include the following:

- Most priority 1 trails and management projects identified in our Trail Assessment last year completed and first annual review and up-date of the Assessment initiated.
- Construction of a lean-to at Riga Campsite, well along with pre-snow deadline.

- Drilling of a well and all season hand pump installation at Silver Hill.
- Open space areas established, cleared and at least one mowing completed on all but one.
- Group Camping Area based on a permit system established along with other recommendations of the Group Camping Committee.
- Experimental protection plan initiated for conifer plantings on Stanley Tract.
- Gabions installed to reduce erosion and better secure bridge at Macedonia Brook.
- Relocation completed to reduce dangerous road walk on Rte. 7 near Rte. 112
- Draft revision of the Management Plan for the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut, our operating Bible, almost completed.

In addition, two projects of major significance have just been initiated this fall. 1) An ecological inventory of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail in CT, called a Natural History Inventory, has been contracted through the CT Natural Diversity Data Base. The Trails Committee approved the project under the leadership of ATC and will be working closely with it. 2) The first meeting will be held in October to initiate the development of a new Memorandum of Agreement for the Operation, Development and Maintenance of the Appalachian Trail in Connecticut. Participants include the State of Connecticut - Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the Appalachian Trail Conference (ATC), the Appalachian Mountain Club - CT Chapter (AMC) and the National Park Service (NPS). This is the most important initiative since the original agreement expired in 1987.

While most Trails efforts were devoted to our delegated responsibilities, time and interest was also given to service afield and opportunities for sociability. This included a Trail Work Weekend at PEEK in the Delaware Water Gap with Delaware Valley Chapter volunteers, a Management Outing at Twin Lakes, a Trails Work Weekend at Camp Dodge with the N.H. Trails Crew and a potluck and overnight at John Hicks' home as part of our October work weekend, with a return delegation from the Delaware Valley Chapter. Also, the Trails Committee was represented at the Biannual Presidents' Meeting of ATC, the ATC N.E. Regional Management Committee, the N.E. Trails Assoc. Conference, three meetings of the AMC Trails Committee and both AMC Town Meetings.

Trails Committee:

- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| George Andrews | John Hicks | Glen Borchmann |
| Dick Blake | Jim Lidback | Cheryl Peatfield |
| Hugh Cobrain | *Tim Loveridge | *Dennis Regan |
| Ted Cowles | Elaine Luckey | Richard Pouse |
| Henry Edmonds | Marla Mendes | Norm Sills |
| John Greacan | Paul Palmer | Colin Tait |

Doug Christie, Chair

*Staff

WHITewater COMMITTEE

CT AMC Whitewater Leaders conducted 90 trips in February through October 1990. A tentative schedule is prepared in October each year for the following year. Anticipated availability must include conditions created by dam releases, ice break-up, snow melt down, and low water as the year progresses. As the various conditions change, the schedule is rearranged. Impromptu trips can be held, especially after heavy rain, but only after the trip and its leader are approved by the committee. Trip information is placed on the "Hot Line", 203-582-6978, by the committee. Trip information is placed on the "Hot Line", 203-582-6978. The hot line committee is headed by Dick Ploski. This info line is used extensively.

Paddlers are safety conscious. Each trip is lead by an approved, competent, rated leader. Most state laws require that each person have a flotation cushion or vest aboard the water craft. We require that each person wear a pfd (personal flotation device). Closed boat paddlers and advanced canoe paddlers also wear helmets. Trip leaders require that paddlers have sufficient skills, proper equipment, and warm clothing to participate.

Whitewater rivers are rated as class II, III, or IV. The rivers are detailed in AMC and other river guides. Paddlers are also rated II, III, or IV according to their ability. The rating definitions are standard in the AMC Whitewater chapters and most other whitewater groups. The CT AMC rating committee, headed by Tom Ploski, advances appropriately skilled persons to new levels after receiving evaluations from trip leaders.

Several training sessions were offered during the year:

- Class II, a two day overnight training and practice session.
- Eskimo Rolling in a pool during January and February.
- Solo Paddling clinic.
- AMC New Member Day Whitewater experience.
- Whitewater Sampler for AMC members who want a taste of Whitewater, paddling with one of our rated members.

The Class II and Sampler sessions were headed by Laurie Loud Kommitz; Rolling by Ed Chase; Solo by Tom Ploski; New Member Day by Dick Ploski. The Whitewater Committee maintains tandem and solo open canoes, a kayak, a C2 (closed boat tandem canoe). We furnish open canoes for instruction sessions and rent them for modest fees to whitewater and flatwater paddlers, but only on official AMC trips.

Trips are run in all six New England states, in NY, PA, and WV each year. Most paddlers learn skills, safety, and techniques in tandem open canoes. Many, as their skills advance, become solo boaters, using a kayak, open solo canoe, or C1 (similar to a kayak, but paddled in a kneeling position with a single-bladed paddle).

The whitewater group charges \$1 per person per trip. This provides funds for mailings, functions, and equipment. The group participates in the chapter but is financially independent.

All AMC members are invited to attend Class II training or the Sampler in 1991.

Whitewater Committee Members:

Ed Chase	Dick Ploski
Kent Heidenitz	Tom Ploski
Herb Kommitz	Dolores Sandman
Laurie Loud Kommitz	Leo Sandman
Jan Larkin	Steve Sokoloski
Ray Larkin	Donna Wellins
Bill MacDonald	Nancy Wendt

Ed Bossom, Chair

"AMC IN CONNECTICUT" CONNECTICUT CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

The Connecticut Chapter Newsletter, "The AMC in Connecticut", was published twice in 1990. Conservation was the theme for the April issue with Earth Day and other events emphasized. Williams '91 was highlighted and an Education Committee Survey form was presented. The October issue was devoted principally to the Annual Meeting. Chapter By-Laws revision was discussed and further information was provided on Williams '91. Each issue contained committee reports and other sundry information.

Publication and distribution of "AMC in Connecticut" depends upon the help of many volunteers. Thanks to all who submitted articles and information for the newsletters and to Jeff O'Donnell for providing the sharp laser produced copy used to print the newsletter. Thank you to all the interested, hard working and cheerful mailing party people who came to work and to get the newsletters addressed (as well as to enjoy Martha's cookies). A special thanks to my wife, Martha, who hosted our parties again this year.

Mailing Party Volunteers:

June Michaud	Carol Rudert
Don Patterson	Jeri Lyons
Sally O'Connell	Alice Carter
Sue Hardy	Gerry Hardy
Martha Donachie	Kay Dorn
Charlie Dorn	Kathy Cotter
Laurie Porto	Bob Dickinson
Chris Johnson	

Matt Donachie, Editor

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

A special thanks is given to the members of the nominating committee for their diligence in putting together the 1991 slate.

Elaine Luckey
Anne Millbrooke

Carolyn Olsen
Carl Rosenthal

Ledge Clayton, Chair

NOMINATIONS FOR 1991 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

In accordance with the Chapter by-laws, the nominating committee is pleased to present the following slate for 1991:

Chairman	Jeff O'Donnell
Secretary	Kathleen Wright
Treasurer	Paul Maresca
Conservation	Judy Snyder
Education	Francine Aloisa
Excursions	Merri Swanson
	Trevor Thomas
Fairfield County	Bill Russell
Membership	Janet DiMattia
	Trish Niece
Mountaineering	Don Reichler
Mt. Riga	Paul Ives
Program	Gordon Gaulin
Trails	Doug Christie
Whitewater	Steve Sokoloski
Members-at-large	Ken Richardson
	Mary Dorpalen
Past Chair	Glen Parchmann